[28th March 1955

technical scrutiny. The villagers of Edayakurichi have requested that draw wells might be sunk instead of borewells as originally proposed. This is being enquired into.

"(c) Borewells are sunk by the Revenue Department in consultation with the Industries Department and so it usually takes a little longer for the proposals to materialise and the works to start."

Grant of takkavi loans in Kurumbranad taluk.

* 1650 *Q.*—Sri C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications for thakkavi loans received during the year 1953 from Kurumbranad taluk, North Malabar;

(*b*) the number of applications sanctioned; and

(*c*) the amount of loan distributed?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—

	By the District Agricultural Officer, Tellicherry.	By the Revenue Department.
" (*a*)	399	5
" (*b*)	258	Nil.
" (*c*)	Rs. 21,260	Nil."

Compulsory elementary education.

* 1651 *Q.*—Sri L. ANANDAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in compulsory elementary education areas no action has been taken against defaulters; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to make compulsory education effective?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are Government aware that from 1948 when the Government stopped the supply of mid-day meals to children attending the schools under compulsion, the attendance has fallen? Are the Government also aware that the attendance has fallen mainly due to the poverty of the parents and the stoppage of the mid-day meals? In view of the importance of the matter, will the Government see that the provision of mid-day meals is reintroduced in the areas where there is compulsion?"

28th March 1955]

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I hope the hon. Member would have taken notice of the statement made by the Hon. the Chief Minister in a function held yesterday which has appeared in the papers."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that all children in the Chingleput district of the school-going age are not brought under the compulsory system of elementary education and if so, what action is being taken by the Government to enforce this regulation on the parents who are not now willing to send their children to school? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, to give my own point of view, I have no faith in this compulsion. As a matter of fact, more inducement should be given to students to attend schools."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, on a point of order. While the hon. Members of this House are forbidden to refer to paper reports, is the Hon. Minister competent or right in referring to the paper report of the speech of the Hon. Chief Minister? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I did not read it out here. I only suggested to the hon. Member to look into the paper."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" It is for the Chair to answer Mr. Kurup's point."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" But still, as a reference was made to me, I have to make my position clear."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—"பத்திரிகையில் வந்த செய்தியைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிடுவது தப்பா, சரியா என்பது ஒருபுறமிருக்கட்டும். அவ்வளவு முக்கியமான ஒரு விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி பத்திரிகையின் மூலமாகத் தானா அங்கத்தினர்கள் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டும்? இந்தச் சபையில் சொல்லப்பட்டு அங்கத்தினர்கள் தெரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கக்கூடாதா? முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் என்ன அறிவித்தார்கள் என்பதை அமைச்சரவர்களிடமிருந்து அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I thought it would be stale to repeat it again. That is why I said that the hon. Member may look into the papers. The Government attach very great importance to the supply of mid-day meals and all steps will be taken for that purpose."

Sri A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் வெளியில் குறிப்பிட்டதுபோல் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் படிக்கும் குழந்தைகளுக்குப் பகல் உணவு கொடுப்பதற்குப் புதிய வரி போட எப்பொழுது நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் மசோதா கொண்டுவரப் போகிறார்கள்? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" புதிய வரி போட்டுத்தான் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் படிக்கும் குழந்தைகளுக்குப் பகல் உணவு கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்பது அல்ல. புதிய வரி போடவேண்டிய அவசியம் ஏற்பட்டாலும் அதுபற்றி ஆலோசிக்கப்படும் என்றுதான் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பேசியிருக்கிறார்கள்."